

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **Akio NAKAJIMA**

Group Art Unit: **3724**

Application Number: **09/400,833**

Examiner: **Omar Flores-Sanchez**

Filed: **September 21, 1999**

Confirmation Number: **3858**

For: **WORKPIECE-TRANSFER DEVICE**

Attorney Docket Number: **991059**  
Customer Number: **38834**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 27, 2006

Sir:

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. A copy of each non-U.S. document is enclosed herewith.

The documents were cited in an Office Action for a corresponding Japanese application. A copy of the Office Action with an English translation is also enclosed as a concise explanation.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits following the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in the above-identified patent application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO/SB/08 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

IDS  
Serial No. 09/400,833  
Attorney Docket No. 991059

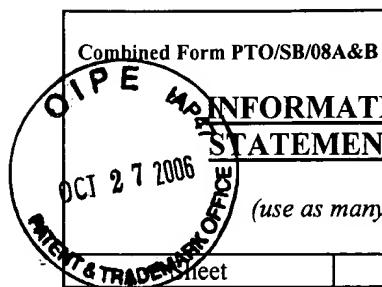
If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**

  
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Enclosures: Limited Recognition  
PTO/SB/08  
4 Documents  
Foreign Communication



Combined Form PTO/SB/08A&B				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	09/400,833
				Confirmation Number	3858
				Filing Date	September 21, 1999
				First Named Inventor	Akio NAKAJIMA et al.
				Art Unit	3724
				Examiner Name	Omar Flores-Sanchez
				Attorney Docket Number	991059

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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.		Translation <sup>6</sup>
	5	Notification of Reason(s) for Refusal dated September 26, 2006 of JP10-287954		Yes

**Examiner Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date Considered** \_\_\_\_\_

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.